

9-9-2008

# The Hilltop 9-9-2008

Hilltop Staff

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**WEATHER****84**  
**64****Tomorrow:****73**  
**57**

Established

**1924****Tuesday  
Notebook****CAMPUS****TICKETING, TOWING, AND THIEVARY ARE LARGE CONCERNS FOR STUDENTS WHO DRIVE. AND WITH LIMITED ON-CAMPUS PARKING, STUDENTS WEIGH THEIR OPTIONS****PAGE 2****LIFE & STYLE****MOLDY BREAD AND DISCOLORED MEAT IN YOUR REFRIGERATOR. AFTER FOUR DAYS, LEFTOVERS CAN BE DEADLY. PROPER STORAGE PRACTICES CAN PREVENT THESE PROBLEMS.****PAGE 8****METRO****THE GOING GREEN TREND HITS THE DISTRICT AS RESIDENTS LOOK FOR NEW ECO-FRIENDLY ALTERNATIVES.****PAGE 6**

# THE HILLTOP

**The Daily Student Voice of Howard University**

VOLUME 92, NO. 11

WWW.THEHILLTOPONLINE.COM

**Tuesday, September 9, 2008**

## GODSC, PROVOST HOST 'WHAT IS A HOWARD MAN?'



Jessica Lewis - Staff Writer

Interim Provost Alvin Thornton, Ph.D. addresses a crowd of male underclassmen to inspire the ideals of what a true Howard man is.

**BY JESSICA LEWIS**  
*Staff Writer*

The Howard man is the person that tries to live up to the sacredness of the names of the institutions in which he studies.

These words were uttered by the Provost and Chief Academic Chair, Alvin Thornton, Ph.D during the Gen-

tlemen of Drew Social Club (GODSC) event hosted on Monday evening entitled "What is a Howard Man?"

According to sophomore psychology major and member of GODSC Alex Smith, the purpose of the event was to teach the incoming freshmen how to be distinguished Howard gentlemen.

To exemplify the focus of the event, the panel consisted of a Howard

man of the past, the director of Central Scheduling Mr. Bernard Moon, a Howard Man of the present, Thornton, and a Howard man of the future, sophomore political science major Justin Askew.

Marcus Ware started the program promptly at 7:27pm and had the crowd repeat after him in statements that he feels reflect the Howard man. The first statement delivered said, "As a Howard

man, I will respect all women."

According to Ware, distractions often cause a lot of young men to lose focus and consequently, fall behind in their studies. In a freshman class consisting of 435 men and 1,065 women, it is easy to get distracted.

Askew tells the audience to start prioritizing.

"We see women in terms of objects, but they're not. They are women; they are the opposite of men. This generation has forgotten what love is," Askew said.

The Gentlemen of Drew took a page from recording artist Ne-Yo and proclaimed this "The Year of the Gentlemen."

Several of the young men in the audience expressed concerns about the lack of clothing displayed by many females along with the plethora of young women hanging out on the wall outside of the Quad for obvious reasons as a sign of fleeting self-respect.

Next, Ware asked the young men to repeat after him and say, "As a Howard Man, I will strive to get a 4.0."

Askew said, "You freshmen are smarter, than my freshmen class. And we were smarter than the ones that came before us. We are constantly progressing in terms of intellect."

Thornton addresses the audience and passionately said, "You are the few, who got out of high school. You are the few, who made it to this highly selective institution of higher learning. The

one thing that we can do is graduate on time."

Thornton charges the young men of the audience to be revolutionaries of their day.

"I'm not asking you to face anybody's dogs or water hoses, I'm asking you to be an intellectual," he said.

Thornton continued saying, "In your day, I want you to be the best revolutionary you can be: a young, black male intellectual. I'm losing to many of you."

"You are here for a reason. You have to act the part; you have to look the part. There is always somebody watching you and they're not always excited that you're a Howard man. There are some people who are envious of you," Moon said.

Lastly, Ware asked the Howard men in the audience to repeat, "As a Howard man, I will be my brother's keeper."

According to Ware, this point connects to the founding principle of the GODSC, when three young men decided to come together and take care of each other.

Freshman chemistry major Robert Ehrlich said that he came out to the event because on his first day at Howard three Gentlemen of Drew came into his room and welcomed him to Howard University.

"I'm not the only person here, who understands the importance of the Howard man," he said.

## South Carolina State Univ. Donates Books to Zanzibar

**BY DERVEDIA THOMAS**  
*Blackcollegeview.com*

South Carolina State University made headlines across the globe when university officials handed over 648,000 mathematics and chemistry textbooks and other learning materials to the people of Zanzibar on Aug 25.

Zanzibar is in the Indian Ocean about 25 miles from the coast of the African nation of Tanzania.

U.S. First Lady Laura Bush, in a letter praising the university's efforts, called the occasion "a great day for the children of Zanzibar."

"The textbooks, produced by faculty and students of the university in collaboration with Zanzibar officials, is part of the Textbooks and Learning Materials Program (TLMP).

The program by the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) and was handed over

by newly installed President of South Carolina State, Dr. George E. Cooper.

It is part of President George W. Bush's African Education Initiative that aims to expand the academic opportunities of African students.

Prior to the handing-over ceremony, Cooper presented the official S.C. State University alumni certificate to the President of Zanzibar, Amani Abeid Karume, making him an official "S.C. State Bulldog."

In his address to more than 5,000 students, parents, supporters and government officials both from the United States and Zanzibar, Cooper said, "I am confident that through this collaboration, we have made a significant investment in the students and have contributed positively to the future of Zanzibar."

Sophomore biology major Daudi Muhamed, of Zanzibar, is one of two Presidential Scholars attending S.C. State as part of the schools part-

nership with Zanzibar.

"It feels so good," Muhamed said. "This program will really help. Students [in Zanzibar] don't have texts books, they just go to school and use the three or four texts in the library, and they [the texts] are sometimes more than 40 years old."

In his address at the handing over ceremony, Karume said, "In the future, by using the textbooks being handed-over during this ceremony today and being serious about your educational opportunities, one of you could one day stand where I am, and become the president of this great country."

According to USAID, in the Tanzanian island Zanzibar, resources are lacking, access to schools is limited and enrollment has been low especially in rural areas and among girls and children with special needs.

This initiative has allowed for a student to text book ratio of 1:1 for the first time according to Zanzibar education officials. The university first handed over 265,000 textbooks to Zanzibar officials in January 2008.

S.C. State further intensified its relationship by extending an invitation to the Zanzibar President of to be the feature speaker at the university's 2008 spring commencement which took place on May 7.

In his address to S.C. State, Karume expressed his gratitude to the university as well as President Bush, and gave the crowd assembled an appreciation of the hardships students face on the African continent.

Representing the university and joining President Cooper were the principal investigator, (interim vice president for Research and Economic Development) Dr. Leonard A. McIntyre, project manager Lamin E. Drammeh, lead writer for the chemistry textbooks, Mr. Elbert Malone, director of University Relations and Marketing, Erica Prioleau, and special assistant to the president, Mr. Edwin Givens.



Brandon Washington - Contributing Writer

HUSA members discuss the logistics of a bus trip scheduled for Saturday meant to bring Howard students to Virginian Democrats in an effort to aid in the voter registration effort.

## Students Plan Trip to Virginia to Register Voters

**BY BRANDON WASHINGTON**  
*Contributing Writer*

Alveta Addison, coordinator of student programs in the College of Arts and Sciences was alarmed when she didn't see Howard University on the US News and World Report list of top schools for activism.

As an alumnus, she said that Howard is not on the level it used to be in terms of activism and this election is going to be important and will affect students, their children and their children's children directly.

In order to get students registered to vote Amber Collins, a freshman arts and science major reached out to Addison.

"We are here in the heart of the election and there should be no reason for freshmen not to get involved and make history," Collins said.

The organizations are taking a bus trip to Newport News, Va. before heading to the Howard vs. Hampton football game.

Bryan Smart, president of College of Arts and Sciences student council,

said their mission is to raise voting awareness among residents of Newport News, Va., a predominantly black community.

Virginia is expected to be a key battleground state in November. According to CNN's latest polls, Democratic presidential nominee Barack Obama and Republican nominee John McCain are in a dead heat.

Kiondra Fisher, a junior psychology major, who plans on going to Virginia for the voter registration said that this is a big election and we're crossing a momentous milestone.

There are approximately 30 seats available and tickets can be purchased at Cramton Auditorium for \$35 until Wednesday at 5 p.m.

The ticket includes roundtrip transportation, game favors and the famous Reslife tailgate.

In order to participate in the Virginia voter registration students must email their contact to [montgomeryinitiative@gmail.com](mailto:montgomeryinitiative@gmail.com). The tentative deadline to sign up is Wednesday and seats are going to be given on a first come, first serve basis.



Photo Courtesy of thetoptent.com

Off the coast of Tanzania, Zanzibar received 648,000 textbooks last month.

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# New Students Shocked to Discover School an HBCU

BY DENIQUE PROUT  
Black College Wire

After transferring to North Carolina Central University, two international students found out something surprising — NCCU is a historically black university.

Martin Skogmalm, a senior business management major, and Bernard Schmid, a senior physics major, both enrolled in NCCU to finish their final year of college.

Before coming to NCCU, Skogmalm studied at the University of Växjö in Sweden, and Schmid studied at the University of Stuttgart in Germany.

"As I was looking at the pictures on the Web site, I noticed there were only black people," Schmid said. "So I guessed that the white people were the minority," he said.

"It was a culture shock," he continued. "If you're in Europe, it's the other way around."

Schmid said that this surprise is not going to stop him from having a successful year.

Instead, he relished the chance to meet new people and make new friends.

"It's not strange, just a different feeling," he said. The same thing goes for Skogmalm.

"The first thing I noticed was that

there was a lot of black people here," said Skogmalm.

"I got a really big shock," Skogmalm continued. "I thought, 'I'm at an all black school and I'm going to be the only white person here.' But I like it. The people are really nice and I think this is going to be a good year."

Skogmalm said he's used to taking classes in a big lecture hall with 200-300 students.

Skogmalm said he loves North Carolina weather and plans to find a job in the state that best fits his business management degree.

"My international coordinator back at home told me that North Carolina was a good state [to live in]," said Skogmalm. "[There are] lots of job opportunities, good climate, friendly people. That really meant a lot to me."

"I chose UNC-Chapel Hill as my first choice," Schmid added. "But I came here because this university, compared to all of the other universities in North Carolina, was the most popular one."

Skogmalm and Schmid entered into an exchange program at their universities that allowed students to travel abroad at no cost during their final year.

First, they had to pass the Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL), a standardized test that measures students' abilities to communicate in English.

"It's an English test that focuses on writing and speech," Skogmalm said.

Taken online, the test has a written and hearing part. Students have to score at least a 525 in order to be admitted into the school.

Schmid has never been to the states before now, but has come as close as Canada.

His father is a veterinarian and his mother teaches Home Economics in high school.

Skogmalm's father works for a company that sells vegetable seeds to grocery stores and his mother works as a bookkeeper for a local official.

"The people are very friendly," Schmid said. "Not that people in Germany aren't, because they are . . . They just don't show it as much. People here will talk to you even if they don't know you."

"I also notice that insects here, like the butterflies, are really big," Schmid added. "In Germany, we only see them near sewers."

Skogmalm says that he has been to Florida once on vacation.

"It was always a dream for me to come here," Skogmalm said. "From growing up in Europe watching American TV, to actually being here now — it's just really nice."



Photo Courtesy of Black College View

North Carolina Central University european students Martin Skogmalm and Bernard Schmid are adjusting to life at school. Before attending, they were unaware NCCU was an HBCU.

Skogmalm and Schmid are now roommates and live in Eagle Landing with two NCCU students from Durham. Skogmalm said that black people are friendly, but they speak a little louder than white people. "It's all good," he said.



Alexthea L. Carter - Staff Photographer

Car break-ins and thefts have been a large concern for student drivers on campus. Parking tickets have also been a problem for Howard students who do not get receive on-campus parking. However, these break-ins and thefts have occurred within the campus parking lots.

## Drivers Deal With Car Theft, Tickets

BY JESSICA LEWIS  
Staff Writer

Before even arriving at Howard, junior English major Avanti Dorsey had already been told about the neighborhood.

"I definitely heard about cars being stolen in the area and mugging," Dorsey said.

Despite the stories, Dorsey said she decided to bring her car to campus "when [she] knew that [she] was going to be staying in D.C. for the summer and moving here."

Although she received housing in the Annex, she said, "I did not receive parking in the Annex; I received parking in the underground of the Towers."

"Normally, I bring my car back up to the Annex after five, because parking is free after five," Dorsey said. "But one evening, I was really sick and didn't feel like moving my car. The next day I was going to work and went to the parking lot — my car was gone."

Dorsey did get her car back. However, "a few months later in the Annex parking lot, someone broke into my car."

She said, "Campus police proved helpful when my car was stolen, but not when somebody broke into my car."

The Bureau of Justice reports Howard's Campus

Police size as having 200 full-time employees and 166 full-time sworn officers, one of the largest police forces of any university campus.

Despite its large size, Dorsey's car troubles are not unique. Senior clinical laboratory science major Tristan Quarter has had his car broken into on two separate occasions. The first time, the thief stole his CDs. The second time, they stole his radio, equipped with a navigation system. Both instances occurred in a Howard designated parking area located behind the West Towers.

According to Officer A.N. Reid of CPD crime prevention, Howard University finds itself in a unique position with an open campus. "We find that acts of crime are perpetuated by people that are generic to this area," Reid said.

He continued, "Our response to the crime is that we act to any incidents that we have first through notifications, through a lot of crime prevention talks."

Reid said, "The proactive response is that we target the dorms and gradually we have started to get into a process where we speak to the staff and faculty about crime prevention methods they can use."

This initiative will be one

of many introduced by the new Campus Police Chief Leroy K. James.

To keep cars safe on campus, faculty, staff and students should "make sure to take all items from the interior of the car and lock it in the trunk prior to arriving at the destination," according to Reid. "If you own things like PDAs and GPS devices, make sure that you secure them. Even the carriers or the receivers stuck to the windshield or dashboard should be taken down and the marks wiped off."

"It is difficult to completely eliminate crime because we are immersed in a community urban environment," he said.

From 2005-2006, 38 cars were stolen from on-campus locations, according to statistics reported by the Office of Postsecondary Education, a division of the U.S. Department of Education. In 2004 and 2005, 70 cars were stolen from public spaces. These statistics do not include burglaries and they do depend on the numbers reported by Howard University.

The problems facing student drivers go beyond crime, however, as many people find their cars ticketed or, worse, booted.

"We have public streets

running through our campuses; we do not own the streets," Reid said. "The revenue generated from those tickets is directly used to affect D.C. government."

Sophomore Kandace Jeter is one student who repeatedly deals with ticket violations. As a transfer student who entered Howard University in spring 2008, Jeter was unaccustomed to the freshman car taboo.

According to Jeter, at Prince George's Community College, "You could have a car as long as you had a parking pass. They were free. As soon as you received your ID, you would be given a parking pass if you had a car."

She added, "I had to go to cosmetology school at night, and I really did not have a choice on how to get there besides my car. I would estimate that I have received a total of eight tickets at \$25 a piece, and I paid about \$6 a day at the meter. In total, I have probably paid \$500 to park my car on campus."

Jeter continued to say, "I did attempt to retrieve a parking permit, but they said the lots were full and there was a waiting list."

She did not consider a parking permit for the 2008-2009 school year, nor did she bring her car back to campus.

## Campus Briefs

### Boston University

According to the *Daily Free Press*, students at Boston University have more than just Skittles and Doritos in their vending machines. Students can also buy a packaged Trojan Exela condoms for \$2.50.

Director of Residence Life David Zamojski said that condoms will be offered during the school year but not during the summer because younger students will be at the university.

The condom initiative came after a year of discussion between the Office of Residence Life, Student Union and Residence Hall Associations.

According to the *Daily Free Press*, Union Vice President Paula Griffin said the Union Residence Life Committee discussed their concern for student health and programs at other colleges and universities.

"The overall statistics for STDs is mind-blowing," Griffin said. "I think the statistic is one half of women in their 20s contract [Human Papilloma virus], which is kind of crazy seeing how preventable it is."

### Indiana University of Pennsylvania

According to *Associated Press*, officials at Indiana University of Pennsylvania said someone fired gunshots into the air on the school's campus early Monday but no one was hurt.

University spokeswoman Michelle Fryling said the suspects are not students.

Campus police said one of the two suspects fired the gun while his friend was just "along for the ride."

Police said both will be charged with misdemeanor counts of reckless endangerment. They have been released and summons will be mailed to them.

The state-owned school is in western Pennsylvania, about 45 miles northeast of Pittsburgh.

### HBCUs

Historically Black Colleges and Universities play a vital role in producing future scientists and engineers, according to a recent report released by the National Science Foundation.

Among the findings, the percentage of science and engineering doctoral degree recipients who earned undergraduate degrees from HBCUs ranged between 24 and 33 percent from 1986 to 2006.

Additionally, the top five baccalaureate-origin institutions of 1997-2006 black science and engineering doctoral recipients were Howard University with 224 Ph.D. recipients, Spelman College with 150, Hampton University with 135, Florida Agricultural and Mechanical University with 100 and Morehouse College with 99.

### University of Connecticut

The search for a culprit continues and security has been increased at the University of Connecticut campus following the sexual assault of a student over the weekend.

UConn police say the female student was sexually assaulted and threatened with a weapon early Saturday morning in a wooded area near Hilltop Apartments.

UConn police have increased patrols in remote areas of campus. They have also issued a crime alert e-mail, notifying the UConn community of the situation.

The e-mail warns students to be cautious and aware of surroundings and advises students to walk in well-lit areas, as well as in groups, and to use the shuttle bus system or the Husky Watch escort service.

Have an issue?  
Want it to be addressed?  
E-mail us at:  
hilltopcampus@gmail.com



# ATTENTION!

## Writing Workshop

Tonight at 7:00 p.m.

School of Communications, Room 213C.

Hosted by: Management

This meeting is **MANDATORY** for all contributing writers who want to be published in *The Hilltop*.

**"EVEN MY GRANDMA  
READS THE HILLTOP..."**

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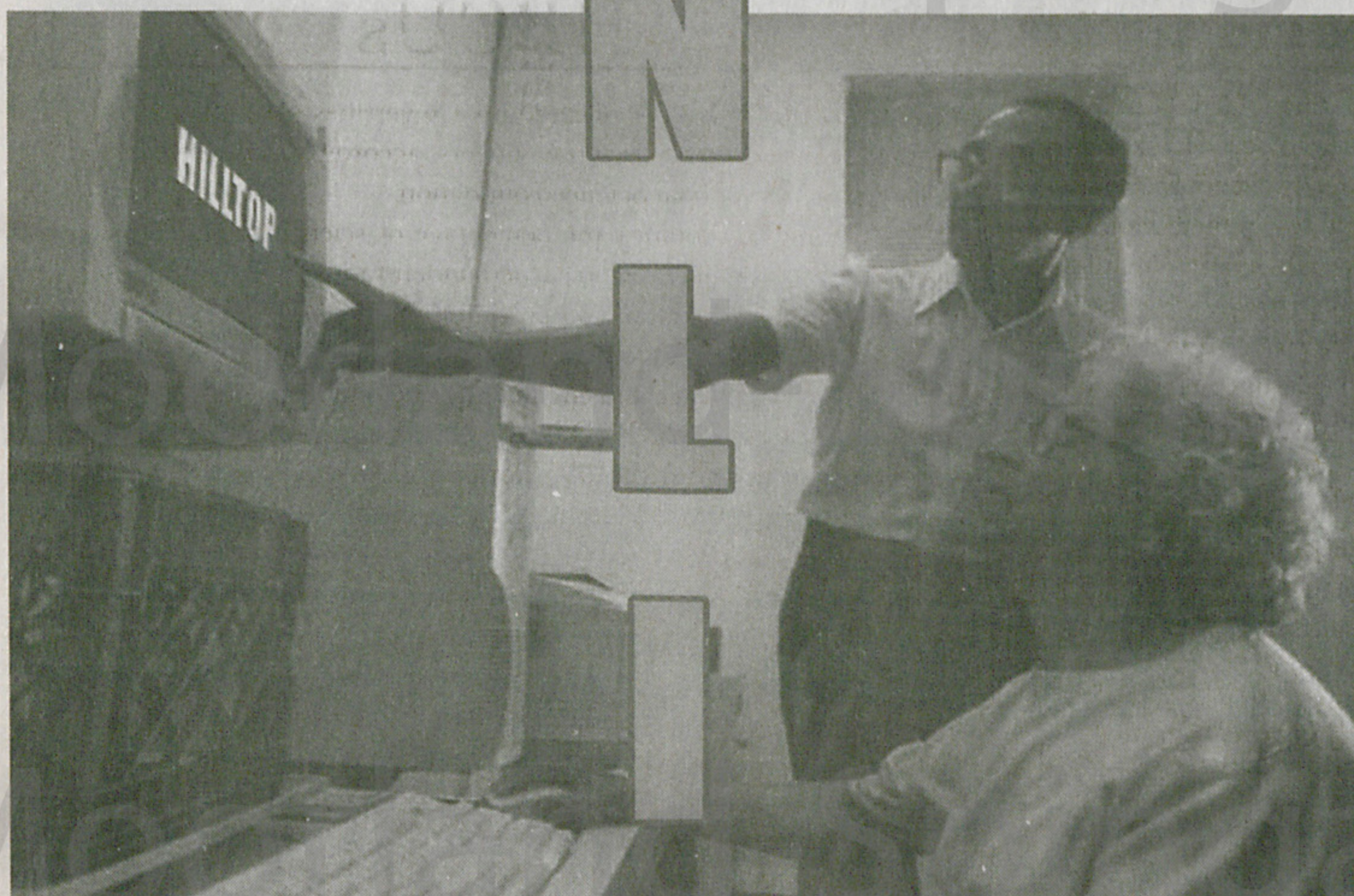
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Howard University Office of Student Activities Presents...

## Service Learning Fair

Tuesday, September 9, 2008  
10:00am-3:00pm  
Blackburn Center Ballroom

*Connect with new people and learn more about how community service and service based projects can improve your Howard University Experience!*

Community agencies that have volunteer opportunities for Howard University students will be present to recruit students in the following areas:

Youth Humanitarian Services

Education, School  
& Libraries

Economic Empowerment

International Aid

Church/Religion

Civic Engagement

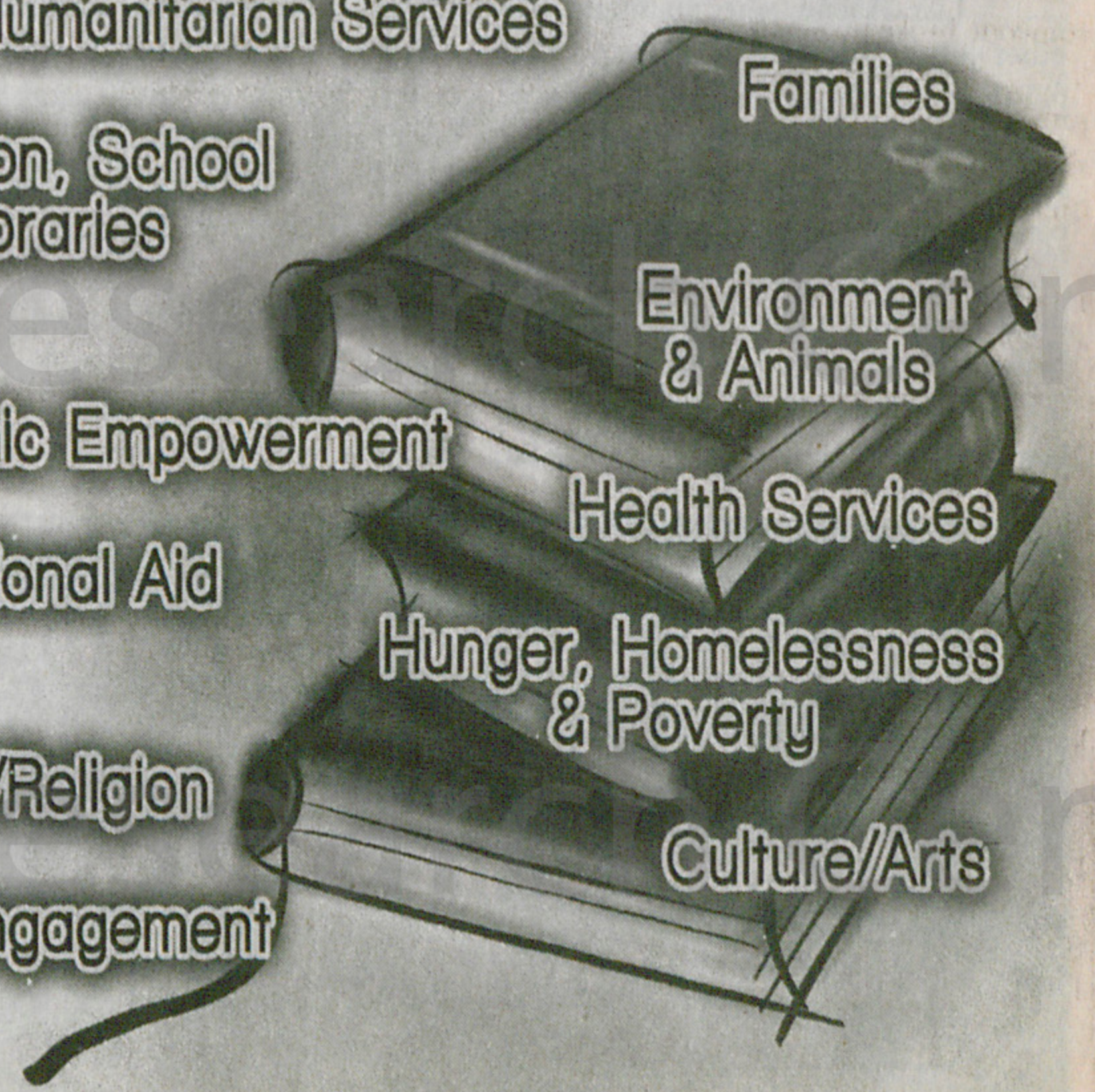
Families

Environment  
& Animals

Health Services

Hunger, Homelessness  
& Poverty

Culture/Arts





# CRAIG SPEAKS

## Popular Web site Founder Craig Newmark Speaks on his successful 'list' and its lasting simplicity

BY TRANAE FARMER-BOSTON  
Contributing Writer

Millions of people click through the Web pages of Craigslist.com daily but it is a mystery to most who Craig is and why is it his list.

Craig Newmark is a 56-year-old information technology consultant from Morristown, N.J. He graduated from Case Western Reserve University in Cleveland with a bachelor's degree in computer science. After working for 30 years at companies such as IBM and Bank of America, Newmark eventually found himself on the West Coast as a newcomer to the San Francisco Bay area working at Charles Schwab & Co. In 1995, as a hobby, he created an e-mail listing of local events around the Bay area for his fellow friends and co-workers.

"Basically, I just started a mailing list, listened to suggestions, and did something about them," Newmark said. "I had no clue as to what the future might hold."

But, now, the e-mail listing has grown from a small hobby into a full-blown Web site whose postings now bring in more than 9 billion page views per month.

Craigslist.com, a Web site run out of a Victorian house in San Francisco by a small staff of 25, is the leader of online local classifieds and forums in more than 450 cities worldwide.

And although some may wonder how much it costs to maintain Craigslist, Newmark doesn't share that information. "We don't disclose anything financial," he said.

Still, it is believed by financial analysts that Craigslist is slated to make about \$81 million by the end of 2008 and a possible \$150 million in 2009.

With the Craigslist's rapid and growing success, many would expect Newmark to be a connoisseur of the corporate culture. But he says he believes that everything happened by chance.

"I've never really been a businessman, just got lucky with Craigslist," said Newmark. "We became a really serious business under the leadership of Jim Buckmaster who's our CEO."

Contrary to most businesses, Newmark and Buckmaster, who is in charge of the Web site's everyday operations, run Craigslist with a philosophy of "philanthropy over profit." They choose to keep the Web site advertisement-free.

On Craigslist, they explain why they would rather not use advertisements such as banner ads and pop-ups from companies, stating, "It symbolizes the relatively uncommercial nature of Craigslist, as well as our service mission and non-corporate culture."

Craigslist could be making approximately \$200 million in 2008 if it used advertisements, opposed to the \$81 million that it is expected to make this year without advertisements.

The leader of the online auction industry, eBay took note of Craigslist's success and purchased a 25 percent stake in the company, which is speculated to make Newmark, Buckmaster and eBay primary owners of Craigslist.

So, how do they make any revenue? In more recent years, they began charging \$75 per job advertisement in San Francisco and \$25 per advertisement in 10 major cities, including New York, Los Angeles and Washington, D.C. They also charge \$10 for every paid broker apartment posting in New York. These paid job and apartment ads are Craigslist's sole source of revenue.

Senior broadcast journalism major Quinn Thomaston said she "would not use Craigslist" if the site was full of pop-ups and advertisements.

Senior radio major Janae Walker says she found her apartment with ease on Craigslist. She also throws her support behind the Web site's philosophy.

"I really appreciate that Craigslist sticks to their guns about keeping the Web site for the people, even though they could be making so much more money by abandoning their values, and, ultimately, selling out," Walker said.

Craig continues to fulfill his duties as the site's customer service representative and founder of Craigslist.

Of all the success and notoriety that Craigslist has garnered, Newmark said, "It's surreal, and I'm flattered for a few seconds - then it's back to customer service."

Craigslist faced criticism on their philanthropic and ideal views of leaving the Web site up to the consum-



Photo courtesy of Craigslist.com  
Craigslist Founder Craig Newmark began as a technology consultant.



## Quality vs. Price

BY LINSEY ISAACS  
Staff Writer

Now I know you like Kellogg's Rice Krispies cereal but sometimes the generic Bag of Crispy Rice is so much cheaper. I know for a fact it tastes the same.

And, oh feel free to pinch the pennies when buying almost everything else because the generic brands are pretty much the exact same as the brand names.

Okay... I think it's time for me to admit that I am the CHEAPEST person I know.

I like to refer to my actions as simply budgeting wisely and making smart decisions. But at the end of the day, going the extra mile to save a dime doesn't always pay out well.

That's what I and the rest of the world unfortunately have to learn the hard way: how to decipher between quality and price.

As struggling college students we're faced with this issue pretty much every day. For instance, when it comes to moving in should we catch the sale at Target for their soft, plush comforter sets? Or settle for ultimately less at a generic store?

It's of the utmost importance to not confuse our desire for the softer, more expensive fabric with the need of the cheaper but just, if not more, long lasting generic fabric. Does anyone think this way when they're making a purchase or is it just me?

On the contrary, cheaper is, of course, not always the best route to take. While I'll be the first person to hop on the Apex bus in Chinatown when I want to take a trip to New York, sometimes I have to consider paying a few extra dollars or what may turn into the same price with Greyhound transportation. I say, if you're going to purchase your tickets ahead of time, you might as well go Greyhound.

Things happen: emergencies occur, and our timing is sometimes imperfect. If you miss a Greyhound bus you can simply talk to their customer service representatives, who are incredibly nice, and hop on the next one at no charge.

This weekend, however, I missed the bus in Chinatown on two different occasions, going to New York and coming back to D.C.

Their service was horrible, and I was charged a fee the first time and had to purchase an entire new ticket the second time. Maybe this just happened to be a horrible weekend for me in particular, but I ended up paying more than I would have if I had just chosen Greyhound.

In this case, quality and price prevailed over, well, just plain cheap.

It's a touchy subject when trying to save money while not being too cheap. But if a large percentage of your budget goes to grocery shopping, there are items that you're better off always buying generic.

With over-the-counter medications, the FDA requires that all medicine contain the same basic active ingredients, so purchasing CVS-brand ibuprofen over Advil and Motrin do the job just the same. Similarly, with beauty products, many basic skin care essentials are made with the same ingredients as their expensive counterparts, sans the fancy additives barely worth splurging on.

And why spend nearly \$5 on McCormick garlic powder when Safeway may sell it at half the price?

And why spend anything nowadays without coupon clippings, a shopper's discount card and an eye for a deal?

Okay... maybe I'm being to frank... or cheap.

But, according to SmartMoney.com, single-ingredient spices are held to government regulations that make spices the same no matter what brand you purchase.

I enjoy a bowl of Giant-brand Crunchy Raisin Bran cereal every morning as an alternative to Kellogg's Raisin Bran Crunch®.

My verdict: they taste EXACTLY the same. I get quality and price all in every bite I take.

## Cab Drivers Say New Meters Affect Income, Autonomy

### Taxi Drivers Still At Work But On Less Revenue

BY GENET LAKEW  
Contributing Writer

The "stop requested" bells on Metrobuses and the "doors closing" announcements on the Metrorail are not foreign to Washington, D.C. and surrounding area residents. In addition to D.C.'s public transportation system, taxis from over 70 independently owned cab companies are readily available throughout the city. For the most part, taxis operate to offer a faster, safer and more private trip to customers.

As in any other profession, there are advantages associated with the taxi business. Taxi drivers find they have a great deal of flexibility in choosing their own work schedule, which can be molded around various activities or duties. Cab driver Mesfin Abebe, 44, has been driving a taxi for eight years said.

"You are able to work any shift," Abebe said. "If you wish, you can work and attend school at the same time."

Like Abebe, who maintains another job in addition to driving a taxi full time, cab drivers can acquire a second job to supplement their income. He said independence is another perk that comes with the job.

"You are your own boss and you make your own money," he said. "Nobody can really tell you what to do."

However, the autonomy of the taxi business sometimes reaches too far

as taxi drivers are sometimes forced to supply themselves and family members with private health services. Whether operating independently or under a major D.C. taxi company, drivers are not afforded with the option of health benefits. Also lacking are workers' compensation and retirement benefits.

In May 2008, Mayor Adrian Fenty mandated that District taxis switch over to distance and time meters from the city's traditional zone system. The meters cost \$500; if drivers did not install the meters, they faced a fine of \$1,000.

"By switching to time and distance meters, we meet the needs of the residents and standardize the experience for every taxi passenger," Fenty stated on the city's Web site.

Although Abebe would be better off financially with the zone system, he said, "We are not happy, but we have to work and continue to make a living."

As put forth by the D.C. Taxicab Commission, a cab ride under the new meter system will start off with a base fare of \$3, followed by 25 cents for each additional one-sixth of a mile. A \$1 surcharge is added to the final fare to help cover gas expenses. The maximum fare limit is \$19.

Another taxi driver said that although he likes the transparency of the meters, his income has significantly decreased due to lower fares.

## BUSINESS BRIEFS

### Online Election Traffic Could Determine Election Outcome

A national search market study found that Google, Yahoo and Microsoft have no record of where election search traffic is coming from.

According to a press release from Didi, an advertising and marketing services firm, advertising accounts made by corporations, political action committees (PACs), candidates and their political parties have no restrictions on how much they can spend on advertising for either presidential candidate, and, in turn, could decide the November presidential election.

Kevin Lee, CEO and co-founder of Didi, said the candidate with the "most sound strategy" could end up swaying what is left of the nation's undecided voters and winning the 2008 election.

Survey Americans said they get their information on candidates through a combination of sites, according to Didi, including news sites, candidates' Web sites and search engines. But more than a quarter of the respondents used sponsored links that appear on search engines' results pages.

The survey was completed by 1,447 participants, according to the press release.

### Two-thirds of America Not Yet Ready for Digital Draw

Analog television sales for 2007 are estimated at \$273 million compared to \$5.8 billion in 2003, according to the U.S. Census Bureau.

With the finish line for analog broadcasting approaching, two-thirds of American households still have a television with cable, according to 2006 Census report. However, sales for digital television sets have skyrocketed by \$17.6 billion dollars since 2003 to an estimated \$26.3 billion dollars.

The National Telecommunications and Information Administration said that, as of April 8, 2008, 10 million people have asked for the \$40 coupon to get a digital-television converter box. March 31, 2009 is the last day consumers can apply for the coupons.

### Zune Says Users Can Download on the Run from Radio

Zune, a Microsoft music and entertainment platform, announced Monday that a software update will allow Zune users to buy music directly from FM radio stations, and download and stream it, according to a Monday press release.

Beginning on Sept. 16, Zune portable media players will have wireless downloading capabilities and stream millions on the go from "hot spots" around the country. The updates are free, according to the release.

Digital music services really come alive when they help people find not only the music they know they like, but the music they didn't know they would love," said Chris Stephenson, general manager of global marketing for Zune.

Zune is also adding 16 gigabyte and 120 gigabyte media players and increasing the color spectrum of available players to blue and silver and all-black).

Compiled by Christina Burton,  
Business & Technology Editor

Got any Biz & Tech story ideas?  
E-mail story ideas to  
HILLTOPBT@GMAIL.COM





No one looks back fondly  
on the time they spent in a parking garage.



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Mayor Adrian Fenty introduced a citywide “going green” initiative this summer. Among the many eco-friendly programs started this year, a plan to clean up the Anacostia River by the year 2023 is high on the list of priorities.

# Green Today, Gone Tomorrow: District Attempts to Go Eco-Friendly

**BY MELISSA MONTGOMERY**  
*Contributing Writer*

In an era where most people are too busy to think about the environment, eco-friendly alternatives – to just about everything – are popping up all over the country. From fuel-efficient cars, to safer – greener – products, the nation’s gone eco-crazy.

The same can be said for the nation’s Capitol, which introduced more than a few environmentally conscious programs this summer. Though the mayor has revealed multiple initiatives, skepticism persists among area residents as to whether or not the new programs will be effective.

The Anacostia 2023: Plan For A Fishable and Swimmable Anacostia River is one such effort some are questioning. Pioneered by the District Department of

the Environment (DDOE) and Mayor Adrian Fenty, the plan proposes a clean and safe river by the year 2023.

“That program is going to take a long time,” said Silver Spring resident Kevin Doster. “I don’t even know if it can be done.”

According to the plan, restoration efforts to obtain Clean Water Act goals have been on going for more than 20 years. The Clean Water Act was passed in 1972 and outlines national water quality standards.

Recently, Mayor Fenty and the DDOE have recommitted to making the Anacostia River both safe and swimmable. The program is slated to take place in five stages over the course of 15 years. According to the plan, the first stage will be to create a visually presentable river, followed by making the river more boat-

friendly and restoring the river’s ability to support stable fish and wildlife populations. The next step is to produce a swimmable river and then finally, to re-establish a river that supports fish safe enough to eat.

In addition to the Anacostia River project, Mayor Fenty also launched a “Green Summer” youth work program in early June. Designed to engage local teens in the up-keep of neighborhoods and parks, area youths also performed minor landscaping tasks.

Casey Withrow, a Washington, D.C. resident, is also trying to be more environmentally conscious but feels that not too many people know about the city’s “going green” initiative.

“I recycle and I use canvas bags that you can get in the grocery store,” Withrow said. “I don’t use plastic bags.”

In a city known for heavy traffic during the rush hour commute, Metrorail is doing its part to go green as well. According to the Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority (WMATA), public transportation is one part of the solution that can help to reduce greenhouse gases. All new and rehabilitated Metro facilities are to be designed with the goal of receiving a Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design Certification (LEED).

The LEED-certified Metro facilities are less costly to operate and maintain. They are also both energy- and water-efficient which is much more healthy and safe for the occupants.

“It’s a good step toward the future because I do feel that a lot of people in the city do use the Metro,” said Christopher Bulbulia from Kensington, Md. Still, Withrow said that although WMATA is

making an attempt at greener facilities, the change will not be an instant one.

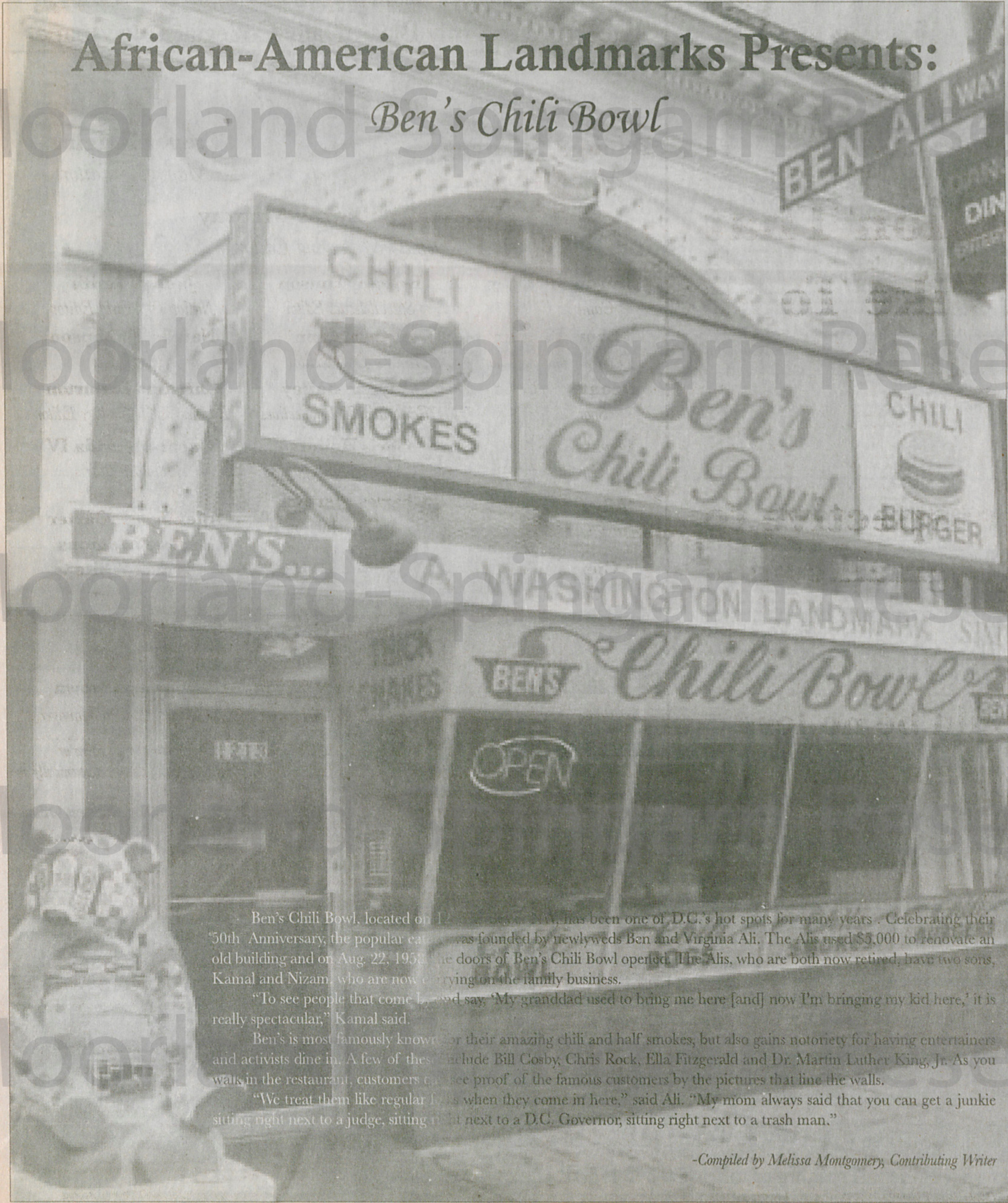
“Metro is such a big thing here,” Withrow added. “It’s a good idea, but I don’t know how it will be implemented because usually it takes them so long to do stuff on the metro.”

The District’s new SmartBike program is the first public self-serve bike rental program in the area. With an annual fee of \$40, a person can rent a SmartBike for three hours per day. There are bikes in the areas of Judiciary Square, Shaw, Gallery Place and other locations. Renters can go online to see how many bikes are available at the location of their choice.

“Something like that is very good,” Bulbulia said. “Bikes are not only a clean way to get your self from place to place, but it’s also good for you.”

## African-American Landmarks Presents:

### Ben’s Chili Bowl



Ben’s Chili Bowl, located on 12th Street, N.W., has been one of D.C.’s hot spots for many years. Celebrating their 50th Anniversary, the popular eatery was founded by newlyweds Ben and Virginia Ali. The Alis used \$5,000 to renovate an old building and on Aug. 22, 1958, the doors of Ben’s Chili Bowl opened. The Alis, who are both now retired, have two sons, Kamal and Nizami, who are now carrying on the family business.

“To see people that come in and say, ‘My granddad used to bring me here [and] now I’m bringing my kid here,’ it is really spectacular,” Kamal said.

Ben’s is most famously known for their amazing chili and half smokes, but also gains notoriety for having entertainers and activists dine in. A few of these include Bill Cosby, Chris Rock, Ella Fitzgerald and Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. As you walk in the restaurant, customers can see proof of the famous customers by the pictures that line the walls.

“We treat them like regular folks when they come in here,” said Ali. “My mom always said that you can get a junkie sitting right next to a judge, sitting right next to a D.C. Governor, sitting right next to a trash man.”

*-Compiled by Melissa Montgomery, Contributing Writer*

Photo Courtesy of www.benschilibowl.com

## Metro Briefs

### Thirtieth Annual Adams Morgan Day Festival

The 30th Annual Adams Morgan Day Festival titled, “A Global Community of Diverse Cultures,” will be held Sunday, Sept. 14 with free admission.

From noon to 7 p.m., the family-oriented festival will have vendors of cuisine, as well as arts and crafts representing different international cultures. There will be live music, including Jazz in the park and international drummers.

For children, there will be fun, educational activities. For 29 years, the Adams Morgan Day Festival has been a successful event celebrating the culture of Adams Morgan.

In 1978, The Adams Morgan Day Festival was founded as a family event to celebrate the rich culture of Adams Morgan.

### Star Spangled Banner Weekend Underway

To celebrate the 194th anniversary of the writing of the “Star Spangled-Banner,” the Fort Henry National Monument and Historic Shrine in Baltimore will be having a weekend-long event called the Star Spangled Banner Weekend.

The event begins on Friday, Sept. 12 at 10 a.m. and it will continue all weekend until Sunday Sept. 14, ending at 2 p.m. This event is open to the public and is free of charge.

The Star Spangled Banner weekend commemorates Defender’s Day which is one of Baltimore’s oldest holidays.

This event honors the writing of the National Anthem in 1814 and the city’s successful defense against the British.

There will be a special flag ceremony, a patriotic band concert, fireworks, parades and much more.





Charles Metz III- Cartoonist

## Kwame Kilpatrick's Sentence to Affect More Than His Love Affair

Last year, a love affair between Detroit Mayor Kwame Kilpatrick and Christine Beatty, one of his top aides, became public. Although the two originally denied the love affair allegations, Kilpatrick, the youngest person to ever be elected mayor of the city, recently pled guilty to two counts of obstruction of justice and was sentenced to four months in prison.

In addition to this, Kilpatrick resigned from office and will pay \$1 million in restitution to the city. In the midst of the scandal, the *Detroit Free Press* published over 14,000 text messages that were sent between Beatty and Kilpatrick. Beatty, who was also married at the time, was charged with seven felonies.

Scandal and politics have always gone hand in hand and it is hard to believe that public figures

do not expect to be caught.

However, some of America's most noteworthy public figures have been involved in shameful activity that led to the end of their public service.

### Our View:

*The city's current situation is unfortunate and hopefully the interim mayor will be able to effectively lead the city until the general elections in 2009*

The media thrives off of this type of scandal and is usually responsible for publishing the most graphic details of the affairs. For Kwame Kilpatrick, this attention has led to the surrender of his law license and five months probation after he serves his jail time.

Although his perjury

charges were dismissed in exchange for the \$1 million dollar fine, his life as he once knew it has been changed forever.

People continue to question whether or not Kilpatrick will pursue his career again after he is released from jail, but he says that he will still contribute to the community. When one delivers this type of public service, citizens want to be able to trust the leadership that they are under.

Now that Kilpatrick's skeletons have been revealed, it is fair to say that a large majority of citizens will not be able to trust his leadership capabilities.

This is a sad setback for the city of Detroit and only time will tell how the city will bounce back. Hopefully interim mayor Kenneth Cockrel, Jr., will effectively lead the city until the general election in November 2009.

## Daily Sudoku

### Directions:

Each row, each column and each 3x3 box must contain each and every digit 1-9 exactly once.

			7	9			4	3
							1	5
				2	3			
		1	6	5			9	
		8	4		9	7		
	5			7	2	6		
			2	1				
3	4							
6	1			8	7			

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Now in its 84th year, *The Hilltop* is published Monday through Friday by Howard University students. With a readership of 7,000, *The Hilltop* is the largest black collegiate newspaper in the nation.

The opinions expressed on the Editorial & Perspectives page are the views of the The Hilltop Editorial Board and those of the authors and do not necessarily represent Howard University or its administration.

*The Hilltop* reserves the right to edit letters for space and grammatical errors and any inappropriate, libelous or defamatory content. All letters must be submitted a week prior to publication.

## Have an Opinion That You Would Like To Share?

Submit your perspective to  
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Perspectives should be no less  
than 500 words.





**TRUE LIFE:  
Hard Work  
Equals  
Hard Play**

BY ALEESA MANN  
*Life & Style Editor*

Our generation takes a lot of slack for being, well, slackers. No, we don't have to walk five miles to school as my grandfather did – lucky us. Instead, we've been born into an age of high standards. We may not be walking to school, but we're certainly working our way through it.

It all starts in middle school when we're encouraged to take high school courses. Then in high school, we're urged to take AP courses for college credit. Our guidance counselors tell us to ignore the fact that the workload is more than we had anticipated because it will all work in our favor in the end, but where exactly is the proverbial "end?"

Outside of academics, we are told to be personable. We're encouraged to build our social skills so we join clubs, our physical prowess so we play on athletic teams, our sense of community so we volunteer. Top it off with something creative like piano lessons, and we're closer to being well-rounded individuals – prime choices for college enrollment.

After getting accepted into college, you have to pick your major. At 18-years-old, you need to know what course the rest of your life will take. Then it's on to the graduation scheme where you have to plot out the next four years. Never-mind the fact that you can't figure out what you want to wear tomorrow; you need to know how the next 1,460 days of your life are going to be spent. Don't mind the work, you'll have the summer off.

But, in actuality, you won't. Intern, intern, intern! It's important to intern straight out of your freshman year or you may never be able to enter the working world. You'll be fine if you've padded your transcript with enough 4.0s and extracurricular activities, that you've miraculously squeezed into your 18-hour schedule.

As we matriculate through the educational system, the message is clear: get ahead as soon as possible. But at what costs? Are we pushing ourselves to the extreme? Doing things solely because they look good on paper, but don't actually make us feel better about ourselves?

In an attempt to compensate ourselves for all our hard work, we've adopted routines of late night partying because it's our only free time. We play hours of video games, watch pointless reality TV and listen to loud music with inappropriate lyrics. It's not that we take for granted the value of our hard work, but it's how we escape the tons of homework and club meetings in our over-scheduled lives.

Unfortunately, our "off-hours" habits have left us labeled as unfocused and lazy, making us the poster generation for apathetic youth. Headlines balk at our excessive partying and berate our celebrity-crazed culture while analysts pose the question, "Why has today's youth gone insane?" It seems far too often, we are criticized for what we do for only a small fraction of our lives.

If we indulged ourselves all the time, maybe such harsh criticisms would be warranted. But, if we work hard, is it completely "insane" to think we can party hard, too?

# Howard Alumna Aims to Expel Disparities in Minority Health

BY BRITTANY JOHNSON  
*Contributing Writer*

Health disparities continue to plague the United States with minorities being at the greatest disadvantages, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). Howard alumna Tia McKinney is helping to overcome these disparities with the launch of the community-based organization, Minority Health Care Coalition, Inc. (MHCC) in Los Angeles.

"The basis of the whole organization is to cater to the different health needs of minorities and provide them with universal health care for free or low costs," McKinney said.

Health disparities, as defined by the Health Resources and Services Administration, are "population-specific differences in the presence of disease, health outcomes or access to care."

According to the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, there are six areas of major health disparities among minorities: cancer screening and management, cardiovascular disease, diabetes, HIV/AIDS, immunizations and infant mortality.

Originally founded in 2005 and incorporated in January 2007, MHCC officially launched earlier this summer in June.

As founder and CEO, McKinney recalled that while interning with the American Association of Diabetes during her undergraduate years at Howard, she noticed that a substantial amount of minorities lacked awareness of prevalent health care issues.

In 2005, she began MHCC as a small project with only two families as her clients. Today, the organization assists 15 families whose ethnicities include African American, Hispanic, Pacific Islander and Asian.

McKinney, who has been working in health care for six years, noted that access to health insurance coverage and the ability to pay for health medications have been the greatest needs of the families the organization serves.

"[MHCC] should be helpful," senior marketing major Anane Lumumba said. Minorities are the majority that is uninsured."

In California, 72 percent of minorities are uninsured, McKinney mentioned.

Sophomore public relations major Brittney Oliver said, "It's excellent that [McKinney] has taken the initiative to educate minorities, especially with so many [minorities] unnecessarily spending too much money for health care."

MHCC operates the Equal Access Program. Through the program, MHCC and CDC were able to create a resource guide filled with information on how to gain adequate health care. It also offers the Friend in Need Program, a one-on-one counseling service and training sessions on minority health matters to professionals, teachers and other residents.

As reported by the Office of Minority Health and Health Disparities, in the U.S., the "burden of illness and death experienced" by minority populations continues to occur at greater rates than those experienced by the white, non-Hispanic population.

For example, African Americans



MHCC Founder Tia McKinney works to make health care more affordable for minority families.

die from heart disease 40 percent more than whites. Hispanics are prone to lose their lives to diabetes at twice the rate of whites. American Indians and Alaska Natives have an infant mortality rate close to double that of whites. And, Asians and Pacific Islanders are beginning to have higher instances of tuberculosis and hepatitis than whites.

"I feel [the disparities] have a lot to do with genetics," Oliver stated.

She went on to say that people

should not hesitate to tell doctors what diseases run in their families because that one step can lead to prolonging their lives.

With minorities being heavily affected by heart disease and diabetes, Lumumba believes that the key in improving one's health is becoming more health conscious and improving one's diet.

Emphasizing her passion for public health care, McKinney said, "The main thing is education, education, education."

# Proper Food Storage Plays Big Part in Health

BY CHRIS CARAWAY  
*Contributing Writer*

Imagine discolored meat, gray mold on your bread or an unbearable odor coming from your cheese. These are serious signs that your food has not been properly stored in the refrigerator. Micro-bacteria and food poisoning could be deep down in your food and you wouldn't even know it.

According to the Food and Drug Administration Web site, "the goal [of proper food storage] is to keep yourself and others protected from being sickened by microorganisms such as Salmonella, E. Coli and C. Botulinum, which causes botulism." These harmful bacteria can make you sick and may be fatal if ingested.

"If you look at the sell-by date where it says 'use by'...and go by that, you can keep that food for whenever as long as you go by that," said Broderick Eribo, an associate professor of microbiology at Howard University.

Food stored in cans, on the other hand, is quite difficult to determine whether it has spoiled or is still edible to consume because the food is concealed in the can itself.

"Canned food is difficult to know if it's bad," Eribo said. "The only way to know if the can is bad is to look at the outward appearance of the can. Cans like Campbell soup have anti-microbia, an approved food preservative that is generally recognized as safe." Eribo advises students to "look at the physical state of the can for swelling, which typifies spoilage."

The refrigerator must remain cold to keep food in a safe and content state. If certain food requires refrigeration at a particular temperature and the fridge is not cold enough to harbor that product, it could become spoiled.

According to Michael Herndon, a Press Officer for the Food and Drug Administration, "The first rule of food storage in the home is to refrigerate or freeze perishables right away. The refrigerator temperature should be 40 degrees Fahrenheit (5 degrees Celsius) and the freezer should be zero [degrees Fahrenheit] (minus 18 Celsius)."

Meat, dairy and produce products vary from one another and contain different levels of acids for storage. "All foods that we consume have parameters that may

or may not be conducive to the growth of microorganisms and can be classified as inherent, low acid food stores worse than high acid food," Eribo said.

"For example, orange juice and tomato paste are high in acid and store longer compared to ground beef which is lower in acid and spoils faster," he said.

In the Howard Plaza Towers, students have the privilege to have a kitchen along with a refrigerator, cabinets and a closet to store their food in. These options naturally give the students plenty of space to purchase groceries that they need and preserve them by their preference.

"I put my produce in the fridge and my poultry, fish and meats inside the freezer," said Jamila Best, a junior sociology and psychology double major.

"I store my canned goods, rice and non-perishable food items inside the cabinet and also store my bread inside the cabinet as well," Best continued.

"I store all of my food whether it is take-out or food I have cooked myself," said Edvige Bibbins, a junior biology major. "I never leave food out because it is not healthy and could possibly attract roaches."

Other aspects of food storage include wrapping leftovers in aluminum foil, saran wrap, plastic and glass containers and even Tupperware.

"I sometimes store food in the containers found in grocery stores and also use Ziploc® bags to keep food fresh," said Darius Coleman, a junior psychology major.

Despite all precautions taken to preserve food, there are some cases when food damage is unavoidable.

"When I lived in Slowe [Hall], the power went out overnight...When I got back to my room, my mini-fridge defrosted," Best said. "Water was on the floor and my meat was spoiled and I had just went grocery shopping."



Junior nursing major Omari Mayweather and physical therapy major Brittany Chenier store their food in the refrigerator to increase preservation and to decrease the risk of poisoning.

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**What about leftovers?**

**1. Leftovers should not be kept for more than four days.**

**2. When storing leftovers, be sure the lid is sealed tightly so that air and moisture do not seep in and spoil the food.**

**3. Cooked foods should be stored within two hours of preparation. In hot weather, foods should be stored within one hour.**

**4. Sniffing leftovers is not a reliable method of judging whether food is spoiled.**